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May I ask whether the Government have received any later report from the Collector regarding the damage done to paddy crops? Or have any representations been made to Government by individuals or associations pointing out the extent of the damage done to the paddy crop by the cyclone and stating that the crop has failed to a large extent and that what little was gathered contained more of chaff than paddy?"

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"No, Sir."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"May I ask whether any representation has been received from the Mirasidars' Association and if so, what orders the Government have passed thereon?"

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"Representations have been received regarding a certain pest and they have been sent for report."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"May I know whether the damage said to be caused by the pest is really the damage caused by the cyclone?"

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"The Government have not sufficient information about it."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHY AYYANGAR:—"With reference to what is contained in paragraph 6 of the Collector's Report, may I ask whether the Government have given any assistance to the owners of houses which fell in cyclone?"

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"I have no further information than what is given in the answer."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I ask whether any representations have been received from Hon. Members of this House representing the Tanjore district?"

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"Not that I am aware of, Sir."

Government Order for the demolition of the mosque at Repalle (Guntur district).

* 728 *Q.*—S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have passed final orders to demolish the mosque at Repalle (Guntur) on the ground that it was built on poramboke land;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the then tahsildar granted permission to construct the mosque on the site in question as it was purely in the Muslim locality and that the panchayat board also by a majority of votes passed a resolution granting permission;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that five Muslim M.L.Cs. approached the Hon. the Revenue Member and fully represented the case and the Hon. Member promised to enquire into the matter at once; and

(*d*) on what grounds have the Government passed the above orders?

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A.—(a) & (d) The Government considered the encroachment very objectionable and directed its removal.

(b) No such permission was granted by the tahsildar. The panchayat board passed a resolution on 31st August 1935, recommending the assignment of the land occupied by the mosque.

(c) Yes.

11-15 a.m. Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" May I ask whether it is the policy of the Government to destroy mosques and places of worship like this and whether the Government are aware that their action has caused much alarm among the Muhammadan community? "

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" There is no policy in this matter, Sir. This is only a particular case and the Government have dealt with this accordingly."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I ask whether the Government or the officer concerned gave serious consideration to the matter before resorting to the severe step of destroying a mosque on the flimsy ground of encroachment and thereby wounding the religious susceptibilities of a whole community? "

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" I should say, Sir, that the Collector personally went down to the spot and he gave it as his considered opinion that the construction of the mosque in that locality was most objectionable."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—" May I ask whether it is not a fact that there will be no objection to the existence of the mosque there if the mosque authorities are willing to give up the site south of the mosque? "

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" Sir, I can say that this mosque is built in close proximity to a Hindu burial ground and the Collector thought that on that ground it was most objectionable to have it there."

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—" Arising out of the supplemental question of Mr. Schamnad Sahib, may I ask whether the Muhammadans are such a community as to be easily alarmed at these things? "

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" That is a contention which has to be fought out between the Muhammadans and the other communities."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—" May I know whether, if the portion to the south of the mosque is given up by the mosque authorities, the objection raised by some people will go? "

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" Sir, I do not think it is necessary to pursue the matter further."